

REMARKS

Claims 1-39 are pending in this application of which claims 30-39 are new. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of claims 1-29 and consideration of claims 30-39.

Time for Response

Applicant notes that the Final Office Action (paper #17) was mailed from the U.S. Patent & Trademark Office (USPTO) on January 14, 2004, and that Applicant responded with Amendment C on March 12, 2004. Although Amendment C was not received by the USPTO until March 25, 2004, Amendment C was mailed with a proper Certificate of Mailing and should therefore be accorded the date of March 12, 2004 for the purposes of determining whether the reply was within two months of the mailing of the Final Office Action. As Applicant's reply was properly made within the two-month period, the period for reply expired upon the mailing of the Advisory Action on May 27, 2004. Because the one-month anniversary of the mailing of the Advisory Action fell on a Sunday, Applicant hereby properly submits this RCE and Amendment on June 28, 2004 with a petition and fee for a one-month extension of time.

Request for an Interview

Applicant requests an interview with the Examiner prior to the issuance of any office action in response to this amendment. Applicant will contact the Examiner to arrange a suitable time for the interview.

Should the Examiner have questions, the Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached at the number provided.

Respectfully submitted,

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